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REMARKS

The instant application is a US application corresponding to Japan Application No. 2002-255571 and Japan Application No. 2002-326842. Claims 1-34 are presented for examination. The claims have been amended to remove the multiple dependencies. The amendment to the specification is made in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §119 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.55.

No additional fees are believed due in connection with this paper. However, if fees are due in connection with this paper, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to debit our deposit account no. 19-0733 in the appropriate amount. Applicants respectfully solicit favorable consideration and allowance of the instant application. If there are any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to further prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 28, 2003

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